



## INFORMED CHOICE AND DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

According to Texas Law, Texas Occupations Code Ch. 203, the Midwife is required to disclose in oral and written form to a prospective client the limitations of the skills and practices of the midwife. The Informed Choice and Disclosure Statement meets these legal requirements. Each midwife may also expand the document into a more extensive information choice agreement reflecting details of her/his practice.

- A. In accordance with the Texas Midwifery Act, the midwife:
1. Assists only with normal childbirth except in an emergency situation that poses an immediate threat to the life of the mother or newborn and only between the weeks of gestation considered “term”.
  2. Assists births outside of a hospital facility ONLY between the weeks of gestation considered “term” – 37.0 to 42.0 weeks. Births occurring outside these parameters will be transferred to hospital.
  3. Advises each client to seek medical care if the client develops signs or symptoms of a complication related to pregnancy or a condition elevating her status to a “high risk” level.
  4. Does not use forceps or surgical instruments for any procedure other than cutting the umbilical cord or providing emergency first aid, such as episiotomy, during delivery.
  5. Does not remove the placenta by invasive techniques.
  6. Does not advance or retard labor or delivery by using prescription drugs or mechanical devices.
  7. Does not administer a prescription drug except under the supervision of a physician licensed by the State of Texas, with the exception of oxygen and state approved antibiotic prophylaxis to prevent blindness of the infant.
  8. Does not knowingly or intentionally falsify or make false statements on a birth certificate application. (This offense is prosecutable as a felony of the third degree).
  9. Does not use professional titles in combination with the term midwife (example: R.N., Doctor, or registered/certified midwife), unless certified by NARM as a Certified Professional Midwife (CPM).
  10. Has explained to the client all the other legal requirements, which are applicable to the midwife's practice;
    - The newborn screening law requires every newborn to receive testing for certain diseases. A midwife is trained to do compulsory newborn screening, or has made arrangements for it to be done by an appropriate health care facility or physician.
    - A newborn baby must receive eye prophylaxis within two hours of birth to prevent possible blindness from infection.
    - A serology blood test for syphilis & hepatitis B is necessary during early pregnancy and again, during the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester.
    - A serology blood test for HIV is necessary at the first prenatal visit and during the 3<sup>rd</sup> trimester, unless the mother objects. The result of the test is confidential, not anonymous.
    - Communicable diseases must be reported.
    - Registration is necessary and required for both births and deaths.
    - Compliance with provisions of the Dangerous Drug Act and the Controlled Substances Act is necessary, and other laws as applicable.

11. Has made this form available to the client in English and Spanish (if applicable).
  12. Has made the statistics specified by the TDLR available to each client (see below, under D. Midwifery Experience).
- B. Should the client have a complaint about the care she receives from the midwife, she may contact the local law enforcement authority or notify the Midwifery Program, orally or in writing:

Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR)  
 PO Box 12057  
 Austin, Texas 78711  
 Tel: (512) 463-6599  
 Toll-Free (in Texas): (800) 803-9202  
 Fax: (512)463-9468  
 Relay Texas-TDD: (800) 735-2989

A copy of the complaint form is available on the TDLR website at:  
<https://www.tdlr.texas.gov/midwives/midwives.htm>

C. The Midwife must also supply the client with the following information: *(Note: all certifications are regularly renewed)*

1. The expiration date of the midwife' license is **02/28/2019**.
2. The expiration date of the midwife's adult and infant Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Certification (CPR) is **01/2019 and 07/2019** and Neonatal Resuscitation (parts 1-9) is **02/2018**.  
 Current certificates are required as part of the license renewal process of all midwives.
3. Medical backup arrangements are: Alamo Women's Health - 11212 Hwy 151, Ste. 350, San Antonio, TX 78251 (Rene Perez, MD, et al) or 7903 Floyd Curl Dr., Ste. 109, San Antonio, TX 78229 (Jeni Vela, MD, et al) – Delivery/Surgical privileges at Christus Santa Rosa Westover Hills and St. Luke's Baptist Hospital. Carlos Quezada, MD is also a backup OB/Gyn with the Christus Santa Rosa Westover Hills hospital faculty. -- otherwise -- transfers will be made to University Hospital, in the Medical Center area of San Antonio, TX. If requested, transfer can also be to the hospital of choice IF the physician on call is willing and available to accept transfer of care.
4. The midwife is in compliance with all education requirements approved by the TDLR: **YES/NO**

D. Midwifery Experience:

1. The midwife has practiced midwifery as a *licensed midwife* (LM) for 12 years.
2. Total numbers of births attended 950+.
3. Total number of births as a primary care giver 650+.

All the above requirements and acts in sections A-D have been disclosed to me in detail in oral and written form and I understand them.

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Client

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Midwife

**Robin Rabenschlag**  
 Printed Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Date